

PRAY.COM

PRESS KIT

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Pray.com is a social impact company driven by a mission to grow faith and cultivate community. At Pray.com we believe in the power of prayer and we are building a digital destination for faith, a website and mobile app that gives billions of people around the world faith at their fingertips. Pray.com's website and mobile app gives people encouragement and inspiration through daily prayer, Pastor podcasts, and faith-based audio content such as Bedtime Bible Stories.

Pray.com was launched in 2017 by Steve Gatena, Michael Lynn, Ryan Beck and Matthew Potter. It was conceptualized by Gatena after the devastating loss of his business partner in a plane crash. Through this unexpected death, Gatena made the decision to pursue a life of meaning and purpose by building Pray.com as a social impact company. After finding peace and comfort in the biblical messages of a number of spiritual leaders, Gatena answered a call to use his talent as a media entrepreneur and he set out to build the digital destination for faith. With that inspiration, he partnered with Lynn, Beck and Potter to develop and launch Pray.com as the digital destination for faith.

Today, Pray.com is the No. 1 app for daily prayer and faith-based audio content. Pray.com is the only religious app in history to break Apple's Top 5 "Lifestyle" category. Pray.com offers people around the world two experiences: a free plan that provides daily prayer & sermon series as well as a more expansive paid-membership, that provides a cinematic audio experience and Bible based original content suited for a global audience. Pray.com approaches a modern take on timeless Bible Stories to give individuals a way to sleep in peace, experience joy, and embrace God's plan for their life.

Pray.com's thoughtfully crafted audio content is specifically tailored for audiences of faith. The faith-based content is created to provide encouragement and inspiration for listeners.

The Pray.com platform has three primary functions:

- A free app that offers the easiest way to incorporate prayer into your daily life by allowing members to create prayer requests, pray for others, and share answered prayers with people they love
- A digital platform that helps you grow your faith by listening to amazing sermons from the world's most popular pastors
- A paid subscription where you can hear the Bible come to life through Kids Bible Stories, Inspirational Testimonies, and Bedtime Bible Stories that help you sleep

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Pray.com presents the 70th National Day of Prayer celebration across the nation. Prayer is proven to improve your mental and spiritual health. Especially in times like these, prayer is not just good for our health, but good for our country. The National Day of Prayer is an annual day of observance held on the first Thursday of May, designated by the United States Congress, in which people are asked to turn to God in prayer and meditation. Participants can join the President of the United States as he signs a proclamation this year encouraging all Americans to pray.

The National Day of Prayer started with John Hancock in 1775 and has been celebrated as a traditional part of the American experience. Our modern observances were established by Congressional law by unanimous approval and signed by President Truman in 1952. That law was modified in 1988 by Congress and signed by President Reagan, designating the first Thursday in May as the National Day of Prayer, just like Thanksgiving is celebrated on the fourth Thursday of each year.

Pray.com invites participants to experience the power of prayer through an incredible radio broadcast live in the Pray.com app and across Sirius XM satellite radio on May 5 at 5 p.m. PDT / 8 p.m. EDT. It will include exclusive live music performances with Hillsong's Brooke Ligertwood and Vertical Worship. Founders of Pray.com, along with Pastors Jack Graham, Ronnie Floyd, Ed Young, Mark Driscoll, Sam Collier, and Samuel Rodriguez will lead in prayer for our nation. The time will also include special guest appearances from Nona Jones and Nick Hall. The Pray.com radio broadcast and livestream can be experienced on the Pray.com app, the world's #1 app for daily prayer and bedtime Bible stories, or by tuning in to the Pray.com Radio Channel (channel 154) on Sirius XM satellite radio.

FACT SHEET

IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER AND MEDITATION

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- A 2020 study posted on the American Psychological Association website revealed that prayer aided in emotional management and acceptance of personal problems to a greater extent than simply meditating on the problem. More than 70 percent of participants said that prayer was important to their mental health.
- Prayer and meditation lead to better health and wellbeing of teens and young adults, according to a 2018 study led by Harvard Professor Tyler VanderWeele published in the American Journal of Epidemiology. It also revealed that young adults who prayed every day tended to have less depressive symptoms, and higher levels of life satisfaction, self-esteem and positive affect when compared with those who never prayed. 80 percent of people surveyed in California said that spirituality was important to their mental health.
- A 2009 study on the effects of prayer on depression and anxiety found that members of a group had lower rates of depression and anxiety and were more optimistic after sessions in which they prayed for one another.
- “Pray for Those Who Mistreat You”: Effects of Prayer on Anger and Aggression found prayer can help reduce anger and aggression.
- Amy B. Wacholtz and Kenneth I. Pargament explained that compared secular and spiritual forms of meditation found that the spiritual meditation group was less anxious and more positive than the other groups in a study published in the Journal of Behavioral Medicine

Through its original content, Pray.com offers Bible meditations, prayer plans and inspirational music, among other features that provide resources to guide time of meditation or prayer. Recognizing the need to take action in maintaining emotional, spiritual and mental health the features on Pray.com will help guide individuals through their time of prayer or meditation.

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Steve Gatena is the founder and CEO of Pray.com, the world's #1 app for daily prayer and faith-based audio content. As a social impact company, Pray.com is driven by a mission to grow faith and cultivate community. Pray.com is the only religious app in history to become a Top 5 grossing Lifestyle app in the Apple app store.

Before becoming an entrepreneur, Gatena was an NCAA Champion. In college, he played football for the University of Southern California, where he won a Rose Bowl Championship in 2009, and for UC Davis, where he won a Great West Conference Championship in 2005.

Gatena started his first company, REP Interactive, at the age of 22. REP Interactive went on to become the fastest-growing video agency in the United States and one of the best workplaces in America according to Inc Magazine. Gatena has won more than 100 awards for his work in

video & broadcast media for brands like Coldwell Banker, the Los Angeles Dodgers and Marriott Hotels.

Continuing his success, Gatena launched VideoFort, Hollywood's largest aerial stock footage manufacturer in 2012. VideoFort supplies companies like Getty, Adobe, and Shutterstock with world-class aerial footage that has been featured in blockbuster movies, including "Transformers," award-winning TV shows such as Discovery "Planet Earth," and a variety of major television commercials.

In 2014, Gatena was named "Entrepreneur of the Year" at the United Nations EMPACT showcase, a program sponsored by Dell and Intel. Just one year later, he sold his first two businesses and became the CEO of Helinet, a global leader in aerial surveillance systems and aerial video production.

After the tragic passing of his mentor and business partner, Alan Purwin, Gatena left Helinet to start Pray.com as the digital destination for faith. Pray.com's website and mobile app was designed to be the easiest way to incorporate prayer into your daily life. The company became a quick success, becoming the No. 1 app for daily prayer & faith-based audio content just two years after launch. Since 2017, Pray.com has been named as one of the Best Places to Work by the Los Angeles Business Journal, one of the fastest growing mental health apps by Sensor Tower, and one of the top companies for employee recognition by TinyPulse.

In his most recent accomplishments, Gatena was honored with CSQ Magazine's 40 Under 40 Visionary Award and in 2020, the President of the United States appointed him to serve as a nonpartisan advisor to the White House on cybersecurity matters.

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Michael Lynn is a co-founder of Pray.com where he serves as Chief Financial Officer. Pray.com is the world's #1 app for daily prayer and faith-based audio content, driven by a mission to grow faith and cultivate community. He helped start Pray.com in 2016.

Before joining the Pray.com team, Lynn spent 13 years at Merrill Lynch as a private wealth advisor specifically in the Private Banking and Investment Group (PBIG). In addition, Lynn served as a board member for LA's Best Afterschool Enrichment Program, an organization that brings safe and enriching after-school education and recreation to elementary school children in Los Angeles. Lynn brings expertise in the areas of financial management, political affairs and asset protection to the Pray.com team.

Always interested in entrepreneurship but waiting for the right idea, Lynn attended a conference in Santa Monica, Calif., where a panel of entrepreneurs from USC and UCLA shared their stories. Standing out among the panelists was Steve Gatena, fellow co-founder of Pray.com. Lynn introduced himself to Gatena, and they became friends. During the summer of 2016, as they met for pizza, Gatena introduced Lynn to the concept of Pray.com. That very night, because he trusted Gatena and believed in the idea of delivering faith to more people, Lynn decided to leave his career at Merrill Lynch to help found Pray.com.

Lynn is a confirmed Catholic and values the importance of faith. His time at Pray.com has strengthened his own faith and widened his perspective on prayer, as Pray.com is an all-inclusive app that helps everyone make prayer a priority in their life. Developing a core competency in political affairs, Lynn has facilitated conversations between Pray.com and the President of the United States, the President of the United Nations General Assembly and the Vatican City State. Furthermore, he worked with the Federal Election Commission to issue an opinion that allowed members of the U.S. Congress to appear on Pray.com.

Born and raised in Green Bay, Wisconsin, Lynn came from a modest, blue-collar family. He was inspired to enter a career in finance after an advisor took advantage of his mother in a poor investment, and he wanted to prevent that from happening to other individuals. Lynn graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a Bachelor of Science in personal finance and then moved to Los Angeles to attend the University of California, where he received his MBA with a focus in finance and concentration in entrepreneurship. Lynn is an avid runner and completed three marathons in 2019 as well as running his own in 2020 amidst the pandemic.

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Ryan Beck is the Co-founder and Chief Technology Officer of Pray.com, the world's #1 app for daily prayer and faith-based audio content. Pray.com is driven by a mission to grow faith, cultivate community, and leave a legacy of helping others. Beck brings expertise in computer science, software engineering, and theological studies to his role as chief technology officer. He helped start Pray.com in 2016.

As with many young people growing up in difficult circumstances, Beck was introduced to drugs, gangs, and violent crime at an early age. Early drug use got him kicked out of school for the first time as a sophomore. Three months before graduating high school Beck was arrested for assault. Upon his release from jail, he began selling drugs, instead of using them. Subsequently, Beck was arrested again, this

time for the distribution of narcotics, convicted, and sent to prison. It was in jail that a fellow inmate encouraged him to turn his life around, introducing him to the Bible, and encouraging him to explore his faith in Christ.

Following his period of incarceration, Beck was given the opportunity to attend Calvary Bible College, where he was able to study theology and nurture his calling to create a Kingdom impact. While he did not feel called to be a minister, Beck did go on to pursue a double-major in philosophy and computer science at Calvin College, where he developed specific skills to serve organizations seeking to serve people at the intersection of technology and faith.

In 2016, Beck reunited his relationship with Steve Gatena, a childhood friend from middle school, where Gatena shared his vision for a new project he was working on called Pray.com. Gatena invited Beck to join him and fellow co-founders Matthew Potter and Michael Lynn to build Pray.com as the digital destination for faith in 2016. Prior to coming to Pray.com, Beck had served as a backend engineer with Mission India.

Beck is married to his incredible wife, Jeanette, who prayerfully helped him in making the decision to join Gatena and the Pray.com team as a co-founder of what has become the world's #1 app for daily prayer and faith-based audio content.

BIOGRAPHIES

Matthew Potter, Co-Founder & Head of Strategic Relationships

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Matthew Potter is a co-founder of Pray.com, the world's #1 app for daily prayer and faith-based audio content, driven by a mission to grow faith and cultivate community. He brings expertise in the areas of strategizing change, building tech products and apps, and finding markets in the continuously evolving technology industry.

At a time when Potter was looking for ways to give back and become more spiritually connected, he serendipitously ran into his friend Steve Gatena at a coffee shop in Santa Monica, Calif. He could tell Gatena had been struggling and they spoke of the recent loss of his friend and business partner in a plane crash, but how he was beginning to find hope again through prayer. Shortly after that divine run-in, Potter joined forces with Gatena to launch Pray.com, desiring to apply his expertise to do something bigger for the Kingdom of God.

Before Pray.com, while he was still a student at Boise State University, Potter created HomeStack, a white label real estate app. HomeStack launched in 2012 and Potter served as CEO until he stepped down to become a part of the team at Pray.com. Potter continues to serve as Chairman of the Board for Homestack. In addition, Potter has developed over 60 apps.

Calling Southern California home, Potter is from Westlake Village, Calif., and enjoys traveling to new countries, investing in real estate, and visiting new sports stadiums. In his spare time, he can be found participating in high adrenaline action sports such as wakeboarding, surfing, flyboarding and snowboarding. He currently serves on the board of trustees at Southeastern University in Lakeland, Fla. Recently Potter has been featured on multiple podcasts including Seek. Go. Create. and The Mike Thakur Show.

SUGGESTED INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

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- What is Pray.com?
- Why did you start Pray.com?
- What is the purpose behind prayer?
- Why is prayer important?
- How would you explain prayer to someone who has never prayed before?
- What is the connection between mental health and prayer?
- Do you think prayer is more important now that we are in the middle of a pandemic?
- Has COVID-19 changed prayer?
- What are the features of Pray.com?
- Can I get a free trial of the app?
- Your vision is to create a world where “everyone leaves a legacy of helping others,” How is Pray.com able to do this?
- How is Pray.com different from other apps or platforms?
- How do you see Pray.com being a part of a movement that uses technology to help solve social issues and create community?